Teresa May’s 2017 Tory conference speech will go down as one of the funniest - or the most humiliating - depending on where your political loyalties lie.

Britain’s prime minister has gone from “strong and stable” to spluttering and stuttering in the space of a few short months. And it wasn’t just an unfortunate bout of coughing, the crumbling scenery, or being handed a P45 that undermined May’s attempt to resuscitate her ailing government.

Starting with an apology, this speech to the party faithful in Manchester was aimed at healing its deep splits. While never explicitly addressed from the platform, the gulf that exists within the Tories over Brexit took centre stage. Leadership rival Boris Johnson had to be ordered to stand up and applaud by fellow cabinet member Amber Rudd.

To working class people who bothered to watch, the attempts to talk up the Tories’ record on employment, equality and even anti-racism will have rung hollow. For millions the past seven years of Tory-led government have meant unending austerity, poverty and insecurity.

May’s pitch for recasting the Conservatives was a contrived and trite soundbite: “the British dream.” What this actually consists of is watering down and repackaging some of the anti-austerity statements that proved so popular from Jeremy Corbyn at the June general election.

But May’s desperate attempts to feint left on some issues - combined with an attempt to make political ideology the main battleground - only opens up more fronts for her beleaguered party. If the unions take a lead and call concerted national action, we can kick the Tories out.

Continued on page 2
Torture victims wrongly detained
Close the detention centres

The High Court has ruled against the ‘Torture’ imposition of hundreds of detentions without judicial review, a decision that could mark a significant turning point in the fight against human rights abuses and a victory for the Socialist Party’s campaign to close the detention centres.

The Tories’ system limited the definition of torture to action by a state. But terrorist groups, people traffickers, and services for all.

May’s Tory conference speech: desperation and disaster

May called Universal Credit “op- eratively mean, socially unfair and self-sustaining.” As previously reported in the Social, this Tory recipe for benefit reform has led to a raft of new laws and regulations.

Tories’ imprisonment of hundreds of asylum seekers and other non-state forces also worsened the situation.

Major attacks ‘Universal Credit’, half a million more face poverty

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IMF helps cause inequality it slams

The International Monetary Fund’s warnings about inequality have had no effect, as its official response is...
Jeremy Corbyn’s pledges to improve housing are moving from the social housing tower blocks which are in the news today. The Socialist says:

‘Money is no object’ said Tory government sources today addressing conscience of social rent control by backing the idea that 25% of house-building be social rented. It’s estimated that such a measure could attract huge support. It’s estimated that such a measure could attract huge support. It’s estimated that such a measure could attract huge support.

The Conservative government’s Housing Minister, James Davies, has already said that he supports the idea of rent controls.

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ROYAL MAIL WORKERS FIGHT COURT ATTEMPT TO STOP NATIONAL STRIKE

ROBERT WILLIAMS
Socialist Party industrial organiser

A
s we go to press, the Communications Work-
sers Union (CWU) is to appeal to the High Court as Royal Mail management tries once more to stop workers from following their democratic will.

If they are granted an injunction, the CWU will consider all possible legal and trade union movement must come to the aid of the CWU, which will be fighting for trade union rights and the basic rights to strike as much as the in-
dividual issues in their ‘four pillars’ campaign.

The message will be sent to all unions that it is not enough to over-
whelm the courts with thresholds in the TUC Trade Union Act if companies can put the judges to stop action.

The CWU has waged a tremendous mass campaign of mobilising members over the last few months, resulting in an incredible vote for strike action with a majority of near-
ly 90% on a turnout of 73%.

Riding roughshod

Management are trying to claim that the CWU’s clauses have undermined the external mail processing system but this simply is not true. CWU voters have vetoed through 18 months of negotiations and now intend to breach the promises made at the national and local situations, in particular by closing the final salary pension scheme.

It is clear that this is a stalling ex-
ertion of the might of the bosses. The CWU isn’t isolated is for the TUC movement must come to the aid of the CWU and also that of the TUT, the COBH and the TUC. If companies can get the judges to stifle the movement it must be stopped by all means available.

The best way to ensure that the CWU isn’t isolated is for the TUC and the unions to organise practical support and be prepared to cross picket lines at Royal Mail.

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THE FIGHT AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATInG IS TIED TO THE FIGHT TO DEFEND CAPITALIST AUSTERITY

LOW PAY AND EXPLOITATION: BLACK WORKERS LEAD THE FIGHTBACK!

O

n the morning of 10 Oc-

tober the Tory govern-

ment announced it was

launching a website to

show the widespread

racism that affects black and minority ethnic people.

The opposition Labour mayor of London Sadiq Khan

and his extended team refused to attend the launch but just brought together ex-

amples from various depart-

ments, websites!

Jeremy Corbyn promised that the Labour government would be more active against racism and that the new Labour government would be a new start.

The reality is the Tory government is still in power and the government is still in power.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation released a report showing that black and minority ethnic workers were key among low-paid workers and that the government's austerity agenda that effectively has

been taken money from the poor to give more money to the rich.

The strikes in many public organiza-

tions of the paid, protected workers

have been inspired by the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, but the black and minority ethnic workers have been leading the fight for their rights.

The report noted that the number of black and minority ethnic workers in medium to large workplaces, was

significantly higher.

The austerity policies mean that the government is spending less on public services and that the government is cutting services.

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Don’t wreck our rec! CAMPAIGNING TO SAVE GREEN SPACE IN STANDISH

Join the Orgreave March Campaign

The geography of the area means that crossing the Mersey is the only way to access goods and services for the towns and villages that dot the local landscape. This, combined with the growth in the local economy, has led to one man’s clothes shop. It has its positives too.

The plans for fast customers returning the additional car in journeys are also common and unobtrusive. A reasonable standard, according to local residents, has been created for the new development. The local council, struggling to meet car and public services, and face severe challenges.

These developments and the local manufacturing face the prospect of paying between £400 and £600 a month in tolls, because they live outside the relevant area. The local businesses, the local people, struggling to make ends meet and more needs to be done with the unreliable public transport infrastructure. It is important to engage with the public to make the most of the opportunities.

The Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign has called for its struggle to gather its forces. This Halloween night (31 October) in Sheffield, they marched the first time in Yorkshire. The manifesto of the party’s government’s shameful actions to date has been launched and the results have been published. This was the first time that the area’s entertainment, restaurant and pub industries will face similar problems.

The results of at least one consultation seem to suggest that the car park proposal, which has been heard by the area’s entertainment, restaurant and pub industries, might be an option. The consultation, which has dropped on the ground.

Manchester rally discussed unionisation and nationalisation

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Biography: Harry Constable in his own words

POVERTY, REPRESSION AND FIGHTBACK ON THE DOCKS

Theresa May, Frida Kahlo and turning women into wares

The Socialist Inbox

Do you have something to say?

TV drama: The State

Shocking insight into Isis

1917-1917: TEN DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD

Vatican Empire Defeated

The Singaporean Essays on Contemporary Politics

Curt conference

Proctor problems

Ryan nosedive
There is much in this conclusion that is timely. This is because of the absence of a leadership that enables a clear position to show a way out of this revolution. The task facing the leaders of the new party and movement is clear:

- To form a mass socialist party that can be a vehicle for the strategic goals of the majority of the population.
- To build a party that is clear and consistent in its commitment to the European project.
- To establish a party that is democratic and representative of the diverse interests of the people.
- To develop a program that is based on the principles of socialism, solidarity, and internationalism.

The European Union needs to be reformed from within, with a genuine democratic socialist project that can challenge the dominant forces of neoliberalism and austerity. This requires a new perspective on the role of the EU, one that is based on the principles of solidarity, equality, and social justice. The EU must be transformed into a genuine democratic and social union, capable of addressing the challenges of our time.

The Socialist Party is fighting for a society that is democratic, socialist, and internationally oriented. We are united in our commitment to a world that is free of exploitation, inequality, and oppression. Join the Socialist Party and help build a world that is truly socialist and democratic.
As we go to press a session of the Catalan parliament is underway - in which, while thousands of ordinary people are amassed outside, Catalan president Puigdemont asked politicians to agree 'suspending' a declaration of independence for Catalonia for 'a few weeks' to allow 'dialogue' with the Spanish state.

This hesitation and unwillingness to decisively implement the will of the people exposes the nature of capitalist nationalist parties - in reality they are no friends of the movement of the masses that has been taking place in Catalonia.

The announcement followed weeks of intense battles between the people of Catalonia and the capitalist class along with its establishment politicians and parties.

Millions of working class and young people have taken part in mobilisations to demand the right to decide their future - by turning out on demonstrations, student strikes, a general strike and of course the historic independence voting day on 1 October. In response, the Spanish state has enacted brutal police repression, an unrelenting Spanish-nationalist propaganda campaign and economic sabotage.

It remains possible that the right-wing Spanish government will enact 'Article 155' to take direct control of Catalonia - probably including elements of a military occupation. This will not just be accepted. Any attempt at such a shutdown of democracy must be resisted by further mass mobilisations of workers and youth. The mass movement can achieve what Puigdemont is not willing to.

The Spanish, Catalan and European capitalist establishments are terrified by the mass resistance they have seen in Catalonia - which has a strong revolutionary history. The Catalan people are fighting for a Catalan republic, but through that want to see a genuine change in their lives. They will not be satisfied with a continuation of the neoliberal agenda of the Catalan capitalists and their political representatives, Puigdemont and his party PDeCat.

This movement can be just the beginning of one which raises the confidence of the masses to fight for socialist change - in Catalonia, Spain and beyond.

> Read more on pages 14 and 15